

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently amended) An isolated antibody which specifically binds to a ~~TNF-R1-DD~~ ligand-protein, comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or a fragment thereof, wherein said antibody binds specifically to an epitope in the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or a fragment thereof.

14-51. (Cancelled)

52. (Previously presented) The antibody of claim 13, wherein said antibody is a neutralizing antibody.

53. (Previously presented) The antibody of claim 13, wherein said antibody blocks binding of TNF-R1-DD to a polypeptide TNF-R1-DD ligand protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

54. (Previously presented) The antibody of claim 13, wherein said antibody is a polyclonal antibody.

55. (Previously presented) The antibody of claim 13, wherein said antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

56. (Previously presented) The antibody of claim 13, wherein said antibody specifically reacts with a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

57. (Previously presented) The antibody of claim 13, wherein said antibody specifically reacts with a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:12.

58. (Previously presented) The antibody of claim 13, wherein said antibody specifically reacts with a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:16.

59. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the antibody of claim 13 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

60. (Currently amended) A neutralizing antibody that binds specifically to a ~~TNF-R1-DD ligand protein~~;

~~wherein said TNF-R1-DD ligand protein comprises~~ comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or a fragment thereof;

~~wherein said antibody binds specifically to an epitope in the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2~~;

~~and wherein said neutralizing antibody blocks binding of TNF-R1-DD to a TNF-R1-DD ligand protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.~~

61. (Previously presented) The antibody of claim 60, wherein said antibody is an isolated antibody.

62. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the ~~composition~~ antibody of claim 60 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

63. (Currently amended) An antibody that specifically binds to an epitope in a protein with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said antibody is obtained using as an immunogen TNF-R1-DD ligand protein, wherein said TNF-R1-DD ligand protein comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

64. (Previously presented) The antibody of claim 63, wherein said antibody is obtained using as an immunogen a protein with tyrosine residues replaced with sulfated tyrosine residues.

65. (Previously presented) The antibody of claim 63, wherein said immunogen is conjugated to a hapten.

66. (Previously presented) The antibody of claim 65, wherein said hapten is keyhole limpet hemocyanin (KLH).